

Natural Resource Officer

Job Code	Job Title	Pay Grade
2166L1	Natural Resource Officer I	26
2167L1	Natural Resource Officer II	27
2168L1	Natural Resource Officer III	29

CONCEPT:

This is specialized work in the enforcement of state laws, rules, and regulations applicable to natural resources conservation.

TASKS

- Investigates complaints and potential violations and issues warnings and citations; apprehends violators; interviews violators and witnesses; secures evidence through observation and search; and prepares evidence and testifies in court. Investigates accidents and collects evidence and reports findings. Ensures compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.
- Coordinates and participates in park maintenance and development including facilities, utilities, grounds and other public services. Provides direction and oversees seasonal employees in the administration of permit sales, revenue collection, accounting practices, and general office practices.
- Investigates fish and game kills, pollution occurrences, and pesticide poisoning; determines probable source of pollutants and effect on wildlife and environment; obtains and transports samples for laboratory analysis.
- Conducts a variety of surveys related to changing fish and wildlife populations, habitats, movements and patterns in order to predict population trends.
- Provides labor and other assistance in maintenance and management of wildlife habitat and associated facilities on private and public lands.
- Develops and delivers educational and public informational programs to promote wildlife conservation and explain the value of wildlife, parks, and natural resources, recreation, natural history, outdoor safety, ethics and the programs and responsibilities of the agency; corresponds with individuals requesting information on laws, regulations and management techniques; writes technical and non-technical articles for newspapers and for agency and related publications.
- Maintains record of routine and special enforcement activities, including but not limited to arrests and convictions, complaints and actions, and various wildlife and recreation surveys. Compiles reports on hunting, fishing, and park related activities.

LEVELS OF WORK

- Class Group consists of three classes.

Natural Resource Officer I – This is full performance work in the enforcement of state laws, rules, and regulations applicable to natural resources conservation.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in natural resources and a valid driver's license. Experience may be substituted for education as determined relevant by the agency.

Necessary Special Requirements: Certification as a law enforcement officer by the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Commission must be obtained before the employee is given permanent status. This class requires the use of a firearm for law enforcement duties; and therefore, candidates cannot have been convicted of, and must be free of any diversions from, a felony or misdemeanor domestic violence crime as set forth in 18 U.S.C. 922 (d) (9) and (g) (9). Candidates must be a U.S. citizen; 21 years of age at the time of appointment; be able to pass a physical exam administered by the hiring agency; and must take and pass a drug screening test approved by the Office of Personnel Services.

Natural Resource Officer II – Incumbents at this level perform more advanced work in a specialized area in law enforcement. Incumbents have obtained the proper certification and have mastered one or more of the following areas: canine officer, field training officer, boating officer, firearms instructor, special investigations, or custody and control instructor. Work may also involve serving as a lead worker in an assigned district. The main focus will be advanced work in natural resources coordination, the enforcement of applicable laws, rules and regulations, management of state fish and wildlife and related resources, public education, and developing and maintaining parks.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in natural resources, a valid driver's license, and two years of experience in work equivalent to that of a Natural Resource Officer I. Additional experience may be substituted for education as determined relevant by the agency.

Necessary Special Requirements: Certification as a law enforcement officer by the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Commission must be obtained before the employee is given permanent status. This class requires the use of a firearm for law enforcement duties; and therefore, candidates cannot have been convicted of, and must be free of any diversions from, a felony or misdemeanor domestic violence crime as set forth in 18 U.S.C. 922 (d) (9) and (g) (9). Candidates must be a U.S. citizen; 21 years of age at the time of appointment; be able to pass a physical exam administered by the hiring agency; and must take and pass a drug screening test approved by the Office of Personnel Services. To be eligible for appointment as a Natural Resources Officer II, employees shall have advanced training in boating enforcement, field training officer, canine training, firearms instruction, and/or custody and control.

Natural Resource Officer III – This level is supervisory and administrative. Work includes: Supervising, assigning and reviewing the work of natural resource technicians and specialist responsible for conservation, public education, and enforcement or administration of fish and wildlife programs, laws, rules, and regulations; counsels and advises on work performance issues; coordinates and oversees natural resource specialists for concentrated special enforcement efforts, recommends the development of procedures and policies and oversees related implementation, investigates unusual violations, special complaints, animal damage and environmental concerns; apprehends violators and testifies in court; provides project planning, coordination and labor for maintenance of buildings, fences, signs and information boards on department managed properties; corresponds with individuals requesting information on laws, regulations and management techniques; writes technical and non-technical articles for newspapers and for agency, teaches wildlife management and advises landowners on the proper management of land and waters for wildlife habitat.

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in natural resources, a valid driver's license, and three years of experience in natural resources. Additional experience may be substituted for education as determined relevant by the agency.

Necessary Special Requirements: Certification as a law enforcement officer by the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Commission must be obtained before the employee is given permanent status. This class requires the use of a firearm for law enforcement duties; and therefore, candidates cannot have been convicted of, and must be free of any diversions from, a felony or misdemeanor domestic violence crime as set forth in 18 U.S.C. 922 (d) (9) and (g) (9). Candidates must be a U.S. citizen; 21 years of age at the time of appointment; be able to pass a physical exam administered by the hiring agency; and must take and pass a drug screening test approved by the Office of Personnel Services.

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